

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 ARA-16 /119 W

----- 035156

R 040810Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7963

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 0712

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BU

SUBJECT: MAY DAY 1974

CELEBRATION OF MAY DAY IN SOFIA WAS STRICTLY ROUTINE AFFAIR WITH NO SPEECHES, MILITARY PARTICIPATION, OR UNUSUAL ACTIVITIES. PARADE LASTED ONE HOUR 20 MINUTES AND CONSISTED USUAL AGGLOMERATION WORKERS' DELEGATIONS CAPPED BY SHORT GYMNASTIC AND FOLK DANCING DISPLAYS. FOLLOWING PARADE THE SOVIET AND EAST GERMAN AMBASSADORS WERE INVITED FROM DIPLOMATIC SECTION BY PROTOCOL TO GREET BULGARIAN DIGNITARIES INCLUDING ZHIVKOV BEHIND DIMITROV MAUSOLEUM. RABOTNICHESKO DELO OF MAY 3 CARRIES TRADITIONAL ROUND-UP OF MAY DAY PARADES IN BULGARIA AND AROUND THE WORLD INCLUDING PAGE ONE ARTICLE ON CP MEETING IN NEW YORK.

COMMENT: SEVERAL OBSERVERS FELT PLACARDS THIS YEAR SOMEWHAT LESS POLITICAL THAN PREVIOUSLY, WITH FEWER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEROGATORY SIGNS. ONLY ONE ANTI-CHILE PLACARD WAS

OBSERVED AND A FEW GENERAL ANTI-CAPITALIST SIGNS.
THERE WERE A NOTEWORTHY NUMBER OF BANNERS HAILING
BULGARO-RUSSIAN FRIENDSHIP AND, THIS YEAR MORE SO THAN
PREVIOUSLY, INTEGRATION OF THEIR TWO ECONOMIES. ONCE
AGAIN PORTRAITS OF BCP AND CPSU POLITBURO MEMBERS WERE
PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED SIDE BY SIDE, WITH ZHINKOV AND
BREZHNEV PICTURES AT THE HEAD AND THE OTHERS PLACED IN
ALPHABETICAL ORDER.
HERZ

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NNN

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